

**SARAH PARKER, WIDOW OF JOTHAM.**

[To accompany bill H. R. No. 520.]

**JULY 4, 1842.**

Mr. MATHIOT, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, submitted the following

**REPORT :**

*The Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Sarah Parker, of the county of Chenango, and State of New York, beg leave to report :*

That the petitioner claims to be entitled to a pension under the act of July 4, 1836, founded upon the services of her late husband, Jotham Parker, as a brigade wagon master or conductor of wagons in the revolutionary war. The evidence in support of this claim, furnished the committee, is as follows :

John Thomas testifies that he enlisted, in the year 1776, in Captain Walker's company, which belonged to General Huntington's brigade ; that he was well acquainted with Jotham Parker, who belonged to Captain Watson's company, in the same brigade ; that said Parker enlisted as a private, but was afterwards, and before he performed any duty, appointed a brigade wagon master. Said Parker was with witness at the taking of Ticonderoga, Crown Point, St. John's, and at the hill between Peekskill and Fishkill, when the British took Fort Montgomery. Witness swears that said Parker served at least four years as brigade wagon master, between 1776 and 1781.

Silas Seward swears that he is a pensioner under the act of 1818 ; that he served in the revolutionary war with Jotham Parker, who was a brigade wagon master in General Huntington's brigade, and ranked as captain ; said Parker served in said capacity for more than three years, between 1776 and 1781. He was at the taking of Ticonderoga, Crown Point, and St. John's, and near Fort Montgomery, when it was taken by the British. Deponent was in all of said actions, and saw said Parker there ; that on the 30th day of December, 1779, the said Parker was married to the petitioner, at Norfolk, Connecticut, by the Rev. A. R. Robbins ; deponent was present, and saw them married ; and he swears that said Parker served in the revolutionary war after he was married.

David Orvis testifies that he enlisted in 1776, in Captain Allen's company, and marched to Ticonderoga ; said company belonged to Huntington's brigade. Deponent was well acquainted with Jotham Parker ; swears that he enlisted in Captain Watson's company, and served as brigade wagon master, for at least three years, in Huntington's brigade, and ranked as captain.

The character of these witnesses for truth and veracity is fully established; and if their testimony is to be relied upon, surely the service of the petitioner's husband, as a brigade wagon master, for two years, during the revolutionary war, is fully made out. But, in addition to the foregoing parol proof, the committee have been furnished with record evidence from the State Department, which establishes the fact, that the petitioner's husband, Jotham Parker, was a brigade wagon master during the revolutionary war. The service of the said Jotham Parker being established, the next question for the consideration of the committee is, was he the husband of the petitioner? The family record, which accompanies the petition, shows that the petitioner was married to the said Jotham Parker on the 30th day of December, 1779. Their marriage at that time is also proved by Silas Seward, who was present at the wedding, and states all the particulars. Levi Parker also proves the marriage, and the time it took place. This witness also proves the service of the said Jotham Parker, both before and after his marriage.

The fact is fully established by several witnesses, that the said Jotham Parker died on the 19th of July, 1815, and that the petitioner has remained a widow ever since.

The committee cannot resist the conclusion that the testimony furnished in this case fully entitles the petitioner to the benefit of the act of July 4, 1836; and they herewith report a bill for her relief according to the provisions of said act.